

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 CU-02 OMB-01 /061 W

----- 047510

R 120932Z FEB 76

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9114

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

FBIS OKINAWA

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT SEDU CH

SUBJECT: ATTACKS AGAINST PARTY SPREAD TO PROVINCES

REF: HONG KONG 1403

1. ATTACKS AGAINST UNREPENTENT CAPITALIST ROADERS WITHIN THE PARTY, WHICH FRIST SURFACED IN PEOPLE'S DAILY FEBRUARY 6 (REFTEL) ARE NOW BEING REPEATED IN THE PROVINCES. A STINGING BROADCAST FROM SHANGHAI FEBRUARY 10 EDNORSED THE FEBRUARY 6 ARTICLE AND STATED THAT CHAIRMAN MAI " HAS BEEN THROUGH EVERYTHING, SIZED THE FIGHTING OPPORTUINITY IN GOOD TIME, AND PERSONALLY INITIATED THIS REVOLUTIONARY MASS DEBATE". IT DECLARED THAT THE MAIN TARGETS IN THE CURRENT STRUGGLE ARE THE PARTY PERSONS IN AUTHROITY TAKING THE CAPITALIST ROAD. ON FEBRUARY 11, BROADCASTS FROM KIRIN, HONAN AND SHENSI ALL REPORT MEETINGS TO DIRECT THE SPEARHEAD OF STRUGGLE AT THE HANDFUL IN THE PARTY "WHO HAVE RESUED TO SHOW REPENTANCE."

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2. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SHANGHAI, THE KIRIN AND SHENSI BROADCASTS REPORT THAT DISCUSSIONS ARE BEING ORGANIZED AND LED BY THE PARTY COMMITTEES OF THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED, WHILE HONAN SPEAKS OF A COUNTRY PARTY COMMITTEE. IT IS VERY POSSIBLE THAT, HAVING READ THE PEOPLE'S DAILY PIECE, SCHOOL PARTY COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN QUICK TO ORGANIZE CONTROLLED DEBATES SO THAT CRITICISM OF THE PARTY REMAINS UNDER THEIR CTNTROL. NONETHLESS SUCH TALK IS HIGHLY VOLATILE, AND THE POSSIBILITY OF STUDENTS AND/OR WORKER PROPAGANDA TEAMS ORGANIZING THEMSELVES TO CRITICIZE ALLEGED CAPITALIST ROADERS IN THE PARTY MUST NOW PRESENT ITSELF AS A NEW HEADACHE.

3. WITH THE LEADERSHIP PICTURE IN PEKING UNCERTAIN, ATTACKS AGAINST PARTY ELEMENTS IN THE PROVINCES DO NOTHIN TO REINFORCE AN IMPRESSION OF UNITY AND STABILITY AT THE TOP. HOWEVER, THE ATTACKS ARE LARGELY CONFINED TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND ARE IN THE MAIN UNDER PARTY CONTROL. IT WOULD TAKE MUCH MORE THAN THE FEBRUARY 6 ARTICLE TO CAUSE SERIOUS PROBLEMS, BUT THE LANGUAGE OF ATTACKS IN THE MEDIA HAS DEFINITELY ESCALATED.

CROSS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL STABILITY, PARTY UNITY, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976HONGK01618
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760054-0112
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760256/aaaabwyg.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 HONG KONG 1403
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ATTACKS AGAINST PARTY SPREAD TO PROVINCES
TAGS: PINT, SEDU, CH, HK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006